

Flathead County Weed/Parks/Recreation

MINUTES

Meeting of the Board of Directors

Meeting Date: December 2, 2019

Members of the Board in attendance:

Jessica Treweek, Pete Woll, Lori Moran

Members of the Board not in attendance:

Jim Buechle, Clyde Fisher

Also in attendance:

Jed Fisher, Superintendent; Gordon Jewett, Assistant Superintendent; Haily Hoff, Clerk

Others Present:

Bruce Ennis – Sand Wedge, LLC

Maggie Davis Sand Wedge, LLC

Bruce Boody – Bruce Boody Landscape Architect, Inc.

Carolyn Mulnix – Bruce Boody Landscape Architect, Inc.

Mike Pence – Flathead County Administrator

Amanda Davey – Flathead County Recreational Program Manager

Johanna Bangeman – Lakeside Safe Routes to Schools

Lana Batts – Lakeside resident

Rosella Thompson – West Shore Community Library

Dennis King – West Shore Community Library

Edward Repa – Lakeside resident

Susan Repa – Lakeside resident

Michael Whitehall – Somers resident

Missy Litton – West Shore Community Library

Walt Stoller – Somers resident

Diana Stoller – Somers resident

Jeff Lewis – West Shore Community Library

Cindy Lewis – West Shore Community Library

Caroline Casteel

Rex Boller

Susan Boller

Carol Cory – West Shore Community Library

Diane Titch – Lakeside resident

Gale Thornburg – West Shore Community Library

Randa Froebel – West Shore Community Library

Collyn Peklowsky

Rhonda Steubs – West Shore Community Library

Gary Steubs – West Shore Community Library

Jim Blow – Lakeside resident

Darlene King – Lakeside resident

Dean Robbins – Lakeside resident

David Fetveit – Pure West Real Estate/Lakeside Chamber

Lance Fahrney – Lakeside Chamber

Lacy Richter – Pure West Real Estate/Lakeside Chamber

Dustin Richter – Lakeside resident

John Hudson – 100 Fold Studio
Al Logan – County Library Board
Pamela Ryan
Mark Baumbach – Lakeside resident
Jennifer Drew – Lakeside resident
Mary Pat Murphy – Lakeside resident
Meredith Fulton – Lakeside resident
Fred Fulton – Lakeside resident
John Meiers – Lakeside resident
Peg Lenon – Lakeside resident
James Lenon – Lakeside resident
Lucille Gehling – Lakeside resident
Jane Jacobson – Library member/Kalispell resident
Nancy Baker – Lakeside resident
Susan How – Somers resident
Bruce Young – Lakeside resident
Ben Barckholtz – Lakeside resident
Michael Stolle – 100 Fold Studio
Dan McNeese – The Living Church
Fiona D’Agostino – Somers resident
Deb Newell – Lakeside resident
Patricia Borjesson – Lakeside resident
Stephanie Venrick – Lakeside resident
Andy Young – Lakeside resident
Pat Young – Lakeside resident
Terry Myhre – Part-time resident
Jeremiah Jennings – Lakeside resident
Ashley Jennings – Lakeside resident
Marne Molloy – Lakeside resident
Susan Bagley – Lakeside resident
Arla Rosso – Lakeside resident
Carol Clauson – Lakeside resident
Tina Jo Lerum – Lakeside resident
Robert Lerum – Lakeside resident

Call to Order

A meeting of the Board of Directors for Flathead County Weed, Parks & Recreation was held in the Lakeside QRU community room at 201 Bills Road, Lakeside, Montana, on December 2, 2019. The meeting convened at 8:31 AM, President Woll presiding.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the November 4, 2019, meeting of the Flathead County Weed, Parks & Recreation Board of Directors were distributed to the members of the Board.

Jessica Treweek moved to approve the November 4, 2019 Board minutes.

Lori Moran seconded the motion.

There being no discussion and all in favor – the motion was carried.

Public Review of current plan for the expansion of Volunteer Park

Maggie Davis welcomed everyone and thanked the Parks Board for moving the location of their December meeting. She gave an overview of the history and current status of the development of Volunteer Park in Lakeside. Other members of this project's expansion team are Dr. Mark Lorang of Bigfork and Kurt Hafferman of Hafferman Engineering, Inc. Dr. Lorang specializes in mitigating erosion and providing stable freshwater access. The process of obtaining a series of permits through the Flathead County Planning and Zoning Department is currently ongoing. One or more variances are anticipated going forward. Many of the original contractors from the first phase of the project will be used again. Tanner Smith, Steve Kinnenberg, Sands Surveying, Mark Buck and Roger Noble to name a few.

The encouragement and trust of the Mattson Family aided immensely in the initial park project. At that time the Flathead County Parks Department had a very active and diligent Lakeside Advisory Committee who contributed to getting a better park in Lakeside as well as making improvements to the existing Ben Williams Park. An active Community Council also supported the development of Volunteer Park. In 2014 the park was expanded further and this is the last effort for final expansion. Flathead County has 72 parks, 33 are developed and the rest are undeveloped. The average taxpayer pays approximately \$9 per year for Parks and Recreation services, six of those nine dollars are used for park maintenance. One continuing goal of the Parks Department is to seek and improve public access to water. From 1990 to 2000 the population of Flathead County increased by 25.8%, the community of Lakeside increased 76.9%. In 2010 the population reached ~74,000 and by 2019 has surpassed 100,000.

The initial plan was brought to the County on July 23, 2019. A preliminary property transfer agreement (PPTA) went to the County for consideration on August 9, 2019. The Flathead County Commission unanimously approved that acceptance of a completed park, the property was purchased and planning began. A unique feature to this site is ADA access throughout the park's entirety.

Planning is in progress to create a stable beach with a wave mitigating design (dynamic equilibrium beach). This design is a way to deal with wave action and migrating gravels. The scope of work includes removal of fill material and replacement of crib docks. Site preparation and demolition are in progress and construction will begin from east to west. The real estate building is the only structure on site worth considering for retention. Initially the county investigated options of relocating that building to Bigfork for use as a senior center. Due to the buildings size and the logistics of transportation to the final destination, the options were not feasible. The West Shore Community Library approached Maggie and Bruce in late September about the potential use of the building.

Bruce Boody reported that upon completion, this park will total approximately five acres. The standard for a regional park in the United States is roughly twenty-five acres. Volunteer Park is certainly attracting a regional audience at its current size of only 2.5 acres. This space is widely utilized by all ages and abilities for both active recreation and leisure. Doubling the size of this park will offer even more level open space for multi-use. A few minor changes will take place to connect the existing walkways, make one large beach and diversify the shoreline.

Carolyn Mulnix presented the most recent site plan of the project. They are proposing to extend the sidewalk, curb and gutter along Highway 93 to connect to the existing sidewalks. The entrance to the additional parking area will be adjacent to the post office and will consist of fifty-four new parking spaces, three of which will be reserved for handicapped use. Large open lawn area will tie directly into the existing open space. Two small pavilions and one medium pavilion will be erected and some of the large existing trees will be saved. Two of the existing docks will be shortened and connected to the walkway complying with ADA regulations.

Public Comment

An unidentified citizen said that highway noise has made it difficult to address a group within the park. He was hoping for some kind of sound buffer to be considered in the design of the new pavilions.

An unidentified citizen inquired about funding. Maggie stated that the park development will be funded by Sand Wedge. Maintenance is a concern and plays a crucial role in design. Upon completion, the park will be gifted to Flathead County Parks Department. Jed Fisher added that the County Parks Department operates on a budget of about 1.8 mills. Income generated each year totals approximately \$600,000 to aid in maintenance and operation of 78 parks county wide. The same woman later asked about liability insurance and long-term maintenance. Jed explained that the park is covered under the County's insurance policy. Capital improvement project needs will exist in the future as the site ages and community support is always helpful. The quality of construction and design of this particular park has been easy to maintain thus far.

David Roberts of the Waterside Condominiums voiced his concern about a buffer between the park and the condo units as well as the proposed dock placement in proximity to their dock. They prefer a breakwater barrier as proposed in the original plan to protect the owners from noise and activity from park users. Maggie has met the HOA in the past and they may construct a fence on the dock but riprap won't be sufficient to protect the marina from gravel.

An unidentified citizen is hoping to see a buffer of vegetation and no herbicides or fertilizers used within twenty feet of the lake. Bruce Ennis replied that beach will be much deeper and the grass will be even further from the water's edge. Jed Fisher added that all label instructions are strictly followed in the event of needed fertilizer and/or herbicide applications.

An unidentified citizen mentioned her concern on the amount of traffic through Lakeside and hoped for a potential speed zone reduction. Jed Fisher stated that the County Commission and Dave Prunty with the County Road Department may be influential in making changes of that nature when they meet with the Montana State Department of Transportation. Bruce Ennis added that a crosswalk is proposed between the Lakeside Post Office and Volunteer Park.

Rosella Thompson of the West Shore Community Library expressed her gratitude and explained what their library offers to the community of Lakeside as well as the citizens of Flathead County. Currently they are located in the Lakeside Business Center and serve approximately two-thousand cardholders. Computers and a meeting room are available at no charge. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 10AM – 4PM and Tuesdays until 7PM. Story hour is offered to children and they have an agreement with Imagine If Library. All of these services are provided by 81 volunteers and privately raised funding, no tax dollars. Information provided by the Lakeside Chamber is also housed at this location. Moving from their current location to the real estate building within the park boundary would free up approximately half of their funding that is currently allocated to rental costs. Visibility from the highway would also increase awareness of the available resources. Libraries play a key role in strengthening communities and Mrs. Thompson feels that this building is a perfect fit

Michelle Allegra from the West Shore Community Library added that she came the area almost twenty years ago and fell into the roll of volunteer coordinator and has served three terms on their board. Michelle stated that she can't think of another organization that better exemplifies volunteerism than the West Shore Community Library and it seems appropriate for these volunteers to serve in the heart of this community at Volunteer Park.

Lana Batts from the West Shore Community Library Board stated that she is tasked with development. The West Shore Community Library is a 501(c)(3) organization and fundraising efforts are constantly ongoing to generate the \$40,000 they need each year to operate. Generous and consistent volunteers and donors make what they do possible. The annual rent expense for their current location is \$26,400. Those dollars could be reallocated to materials, services, etcetera to better serve the community. The WSCL currently exceeds the standards of the National Council for Non-profits. Mrs. Batts added that adequate reserves exist within their budget for extended maintenance needs. The WSCL's fiduciary responsibility would remain as it has for the last twenty-four years and Flathead County would bear no financial responsibility to any part of their operation. Lana feels that the solid group of supporters they have in place would create the ideal public-private partnership.

Jessica Treweek and Lori Moran asked about the expectations for lawn maintenance, snow removal and parking spaces specific to the proposed library site. Maggie Davis explained that a lot line adjustment would take place, spare property would be minimal and the responsibility of the WSCL. In the event that the WSCL would relocate, this property would then revert back to Flathead County as per deed restrictions.

An unidentified citizen reiterated traffic concerns and voiced the need for a raised highway over Lakeside. He also voiced his desire of consideration for dogs to be permitted at the lake access site to the north. It was his opinion that community volunteers could patrol the park and ask people to be respectful.

An unidentified citizen stated that sunset walks to the docks are nice in the winter. If the parking area were plowed it could be utilized more in the winter months.

Jim Blow said that pickleball courts are needed in Lakeside and would be widely supported by the community. A membership drive was recently held and seventy-one players are willing to pay membership fees to play the game as part of a club and feels that this group has potential for another successful public private partnership. Mr. Blow has used the tennis courts at Ben Williams in the past but their court lines and net are not set for pickleball standards. An unidentified woman added that she has been investigating pickleball courts and solutions and felt that Ben Williams Park makes more sense for that specific use. The meeting attendees applauded that statement.

An unidentified citizen asked about space requirements for the library and the potential to outgrow the building. It was stated that the space in the proposed building is comparable to that of their current location. The library representatives also stated that they are certainly not anti-pickleball but feel that having a live active presence in the park year-round would be more beneficial.

Johanna Bangeman loves what is happening in Lakeside. Johanna is a proponent of linear safe routes between schools. Grants are available for trail construction. Lakeside sewer granted easement access is some areas considering the trails would not be paved.

David Fetveit of Pure West Real Estate and Lakeside Chamber echoed the overwhelming gratitude to Bruce and Maggie for their generosity. Mr. Fetveit has received several concerns from the community about the highest and best use of the park land and the location of the library. David asked what the County would do with the building if it did revert back to the Parks Department. Jed Fisher answered that would be a decision for his bosses at that time. Mr. Fetveit feels that aesthetically, that building does not belong in the park.

Connie Bebee, ImageIf Library Director, stated that this is an amazing opportunity for the community and would have a positive impact on Lakeside.

A library volunteer voiced her support for the library as a safe place for kids to go after school.

Dustin Richter is a father of small children and is a big supporter of the library. The building itself would offer a good sound buffer from highway noise to the park. Libraries are also able to loan out other equipment, like soccer balls.

Ashley and Jerimiah Jennings are residents in Lakeside and run the Glacier Perks Coffee House. Both are supporters of the library and Ashley asked if the Lakeside Chamber would have an office within the proposed library building, if there would be fence separating the building from the rest of the park and if there would be another crosswalk considered for safety. The library representatives responded that they have always furnished a display of all the Chamber information. The new location would provide space for those materials as well as a desk for Chamber staff to occupy. It was also mentioned that the library would not be interested in outgrowing that building and the key to maintaining space is in collection management work. Smart collection management is what makes a small library vital and current.

A woman urged the attendees to send an email to the appropriate people stating their position on this issue. She asked for a show of hands in the room from those who were in support of the library moving into Volunteer Park. Over half of the room signaled.

Mike Liddel is new to Lakeside and has worked in in the technology industry most of his life. Mike thinks that it is extremely important that we have a facility in Lakeside for the kids to use technology and gain access to the internet.

Ben of Lakeside would like to see ice-skating in the park.

Rosella invited everyone to the library to see what they have to offer and how they exercise their fiduciary responsibility with their resources and volunteers. Because they operate 100% by volunteers she feels that moving into Volunteer is an amazing reflection on the community of Lakeside.

Maggie thanked the attendees and they all responded with a standing ovation. Pete Woll also thanked everyone for coming and providing information. Jed Fisher stated that all written comments received will be collected for evaluation. Jessica Treweek added that written comments matter and encouraged more feedback.

Adjourn

Jessica Treweek moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:03AM.

Lori Moran seconded the motion.

There being no discussion and all in favor – the motion was carried.

Reconvene

The meeting reconvened in the conference room at 311 FFA Drive, Kalispell, Montana, on December 2, 2019 at 11:19 AM, President Woll presiding. Noise and activity at the Lakeside QRU building made it too difficult to continue.

Pete Woll stated that the board toured the existing West Shore Community Library as well as the proposed building at the Volunteer Park site. Jessica Treweek has received private comments from the public in opposition to leaving the building in place. Lori also received some concerns regarding the building obstructing the park.

Jed Fisher reported that he has received several, mainly supportive, emails on the matter. It was suggested that people continue to give their input so extending a comment period would allow contribution from those who did not speak during today's meeting. Mr. Fisher explained that this meeting was published in the West Shore Journal and flyers were displayed at the Post Office and grocery store in Lakeside. Jed also reached out to the Lakeside Chamber, pickleball contacts, library folks, Bruce Ennis, Maggie Davis and Bruce Boody.

Jessica Treweek moved to open a ten-day comment period for further analysis and hold a special board meeting on December 16, 2019 to discuss the input.

Lori Moran seconded the motion.

There being no discussion and all in favor – the motion was carried.

Adjourn

Jessica Treweek moved to adjourn the reconvened meeting at 11:27AM.


Lori Moran seconded the motion.

There being no discussion and all in favor – the motion was carried.

Documents Submitted to the Board

(growing stack of emails)

Approved:



Pete Woll, Board President



Date

Jed Fisher

From: Missy Litton <missymlitton@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2019 8:00 AM
To: Jed Fisher
Subject: West Shore Library at Volunteer Park

Good morning,

My name is Missy Litton. I am a Lakeside resident and have volunteered at the West Shore Library for a year and a half working the circulation desk and leading our story hour on Thursday mornings.

I did not get a chance to voice my opinion at the meeting on Monday but would like to highlight the three benefits I find most important in favor of moving the library to Volunteer Park:

- Money currently being used on rent could be used for other impactful improvements to the library. One example would be updating our children's section, as there are many very loved books that could be replaced.
- It will improve the safety for kids who walk (or wish to walk) from the elementary school. Currently it is not safe for them to walk to our location.
- Visibility to the community would increase significantly being centrally located in Lakeside at Volunteer Park. Families spending time in the park could pop in for story hour or just pick up a book.

Moving our library will be bettering the future of the Flathead Valley and specifically our Lakeside community.

Thank you,
Missy Litton

Jed Fisher

From: Ben Barckholtz <bbarckholtz@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 5, 2019 10:21 AM
To: Jed Fisher; Randy Brodehl
Subject: Volunteer Park -- Lakeside, MT

Greetings,

I would like to offer some of my thoughts regarding the Volunteer Park expansion in Lakeside, MT. The park has been vital to the type of growth in Lakeside that makes it a community. I understand budgetary concerns, and believe my suggestion to be prudent.

I would really enjoy seeing ice-skating at the park. In college, I lived in Marquette, Michigan along the shore of Lake Superior. The city shares a lot in common with the Flathead Valley. It's remote, has long winters, no interstate, and an abundance of people who love the outdoors. Marquette also maintains two or more low-maintenance skating rinks. These are often just flooded gravel parking lots or open fields. But with a couple temporary floodlights and outdoor string lights, they become an enchanting evening for families. It's low cost and low maintenance.

On a side note, I would love to see more volunteerism surrounding volunteer park. In the small farm town where I was raised, one teacher started "Beautification Day." The last school day of the year, hundreds of students and volunteers worked on projects throughout the town of 3,000 people. Plenty of flowers were planted and mulch was spread in a single day.

A local group of volunteers might be able to do wonders for seasonal clean-up of the park and even basic snow removal (shovels or blowers). However, most people are unaware if such a thing is even allowed. But the parks department could do wonders by seeking out a few key players to discuss just how such a group might be able to do good without getting in the way. With some basic guidance, I know that the community could play a big role in maintaining what has become our most valuable resource.

~Ben Barckholtz
(406) 647-4948

Haily Hoff

From: Diane Titch <diane@riverrockresources.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 10:16 AM
To: Recreation
Subject: Volunteer Park

Re: Volunteer Park

I have lived in Lakeside, MT for 14 years and we have had an old family (summer) cabin on the lake since the late 1940s. I attended the Flathead County Parks & Recreation Board Meeting this past Monday at the Lakeside QRU regarding Volunteer Park.

Here is my input:

I love Volunteer Park!!

I'm against putting the library in this "park" property. I believe the library is doing very well in its current location and relocating it to Volunteer park will only increase congestion around that area (across the street from the Post Office which is very busy). I'd like to keep the Park a PARK !

Also, I believe the best location for a future Pickle Ball Court would be Ben Williams Park.

I also would like the Park planners to take the Waterside Condos into consideration. I share an old cabin on the lake with 5 other cousins – we each have two weeks of summer vacation. We have neighbors (10-15 people) on one side who are so noisy and often encroach on our beach area ... and it can really wreck our vacation time. I believe there should be an effective noise and space barrier between the Park and the Condo area, particularly near the beach area. I don't like the idea of having the northern dock (with or without a fence) near or on the border line between the Park and Condos.

I realize that the Parks/Rec budget is limited, but it sure would be nice to have portions of the Park's parking lot snow-plowed so it could be a little more useable/accessible during the winter months. I suggest selling the existing real estate office (that the Library wants) and put that revenue in a restricted fund to be used for snow-plowing of the smaller parking lot during the winter.

Thank you for letting me provide my input.

Diane Titch

Haily Hoff

From: website@flathead.mt.gov
Sent: Monday, December 2, 2019 12:02 PM
To: PK Contact Us
Subject: Contact Message

Contact Inquiry

The information below is being sent from your website.

Name:	Mark BAUMBACH
Email:	MarkBAUMBACH77@gmail.com
Subject:	Volunteer park
Message:	<p>I attended Monday morning, December 2, the board meeting and park discussion, For Lakeside volunteer Park. I would like to suggest public art incorporated into the park. I am willing to discuss a design, that would be visually complementary to the space, as well as provide seating, shade, character, and also an area for exercise, all incorporated into the sculpture. It would be very nice, for groups and individuals to be able to use the park as an exercise facility. With the recent addition, this would make a great place to run, use a pull up bar, and a sit up bench – as well as any other additional work out equipment.</p>

Jed Fisher

From: Dennis King <dmking@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, December 2, 2019 3:03 PM
To: Jed Fisher; Randy Brodehl
Subject: Support for Library Move to Volunteer Park

Hello

My name is Dennis King and I live at 340 Jib Lane in Lakeside. I am the President of the Board of Directors of the West Shore Community Library.

I want to begin by thanking the County Commissioners for arranging the meeting in Lakeside this morning. It was a terrific turn out. Although I was at the meeting, my colleagues and the volunteers/supporters did the talking. I hope the library representatives that spoke gave you a sense of our passion and dedication to the citizens of Lakeside and the West Shore. I want to reinforce what my colleagues have said and summarize why the Board of the library feels that moving to the realty building and putting the library in the park is a great, safe decision for Lakeside and the surrounding communities.

- First, we provide services for everyone: full and part-time residents, visitors, kids, grand-kids, those with and without disabilities - everyone!
- We've been here for over 24 years now and we plan to be here for many more years to come. We consider ourselves a permanent part of the community.
- The library is run exclusively by volunteers and operated in a fiscally conservative manner. We do not receive any funding from the County, State or Federal government and we are not asking for any financial support to relocate to the realty building. We are prepared for any challenges that may lie ahead and we will have the necessary reserve funds to cover any unplanned expense.
- In addition to books and media materials, we provide our residents and visitors with unique resources including free computer and wi-fi access, along with printing, copying, and scanning solutions that they may not be able to find elsewhere. Our wi-fi access would be available to any park patron within range.
- If given the opportunity to move to the realty building, we plan to make the interior fully ADA accessible so everyone will be able to enjoy the facility.
- And with the expanded space we will be able to offer a greater variety and number of programs, such as our speakers' series than we currently offer now. We will also house an area for the Chamber of Commerce and Visitors' Center.

You may wonder why the library should become part of the park. Well, when we think of a park we typically think of recreational activities: things like baseball, soccer, frisbee, sauntering along the lakefront enjoying our spectacular views, tag, picnics, or just hanging out.

But the park can and should be so much more than that. With the library as part of the park, we add an additional critical dimension: a focus on imagination, creativity, storytelling, critical thinking, and just daydreaming when engrossed in your favorite book. It's a place to get away from the trials and tribulations of the day. If someone can't play baseball or tag, they can escape to a good book, experiment with a science kit or surf the web, and it doesn't matter what age they are.

In conclusion, parks and libraries are natural partners. Both represent "the commons." They are our public spaces and we should hold them together, for they are our collective responsibility. They're really part of the underlying community infrastructure- as important as roads and housing. They promote civic participation; they foster local identity, and they both offer recreational, educational and social engagement opportunities.

Located together, they are an unbeatable combination and we believe, combined, they will complete the vision of the founders of Volunteer Park.

Thank you for your consideration and a big thanks to all the commissioners for visiting the library and realty building after the meeting! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me by email at dmking@outlook.com or my cell phone: 773-805-3205.

Sincerely,

Dennis King
President, Board of Directors
West Shore Community Library

Jed Fisher

From: Kathryn Mercord <kmercord@centurytel.net>
Sent: Monday, December 2, 2019 2:32 PM
To: Jed Fisher; Randy Brodehl
Subject: Lakeside Library

Gentlemen,

I was unable to attend the meeting this morning in Lakeside, so I would just like to impress upon you how important the Library is to our community.

Thank you,
Kathryn Mercord
230 Sunnyslope Rd
Lakeside, Mt. 59922

Jed Fisher

From: blems@aol.com
Sent: Monday, December 2, 2019 12:13 PM
To: david@purewestmt.com
Cc: Jed.Fisher
Subject: Re: Volunteer Park

Hi David, Thanks for the cc. Good questions all, and our attorney is working on some of them with county attorney's office. No subletting, no retail concessions, qualified 501.c.3 status maintained, reversion-to--the-county clause, etc. The existing real estate office sign will go, so all signage will be on the building or low profile. The existing park parking is public parking already (heck, I use it go to Glacier Perks), and if there is to be a designated spot(s) that will require some sort of joint use agreement between WSCL and the County. Having windows on the park during the off-peak seasons provides some "eyes" on and activity in the park that is a security plus in our view. Again, thanks for the comments live and in print, Maggie

-----Original Message-----

From: David Fetveit <david@purewestmt.com>
To: jedfisher@flathead.mt.gov <jedfisher@flathead.mt.gov>
Cc: Maggie Davis <blems@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Dec 2, 2019 11:10 am
Subject: Volunteer Park

Jed,
Thank you again for hosting the parks meeting in Lakeside as a forum for public comment. I will briefly reiterate my live comments below.

As the stated goal of the park is to provide local and regional access to the lake as Maggie described, I believe the highest and best use both aesthetically and functionally for all five acres is as a park.

However, I am certainly conflicted on the issue as the library is a significant community asset that I support; and ultimately however Bruce and Maggie desire to donate their land, I will continue to support completely as all possible outcomes are positive for Lakeside! If the library carve-out is the final outcome, just a few of the questions I think that need to be addressed are:

1. How many parking spaces are allotted to the library?
2. Will the county be restricted from charging rent for these spaces to the library in the future?
3. What standards of maintenance will be required/enforced for the building and/or parking spaces? Will this be the county's responsibility?
4. The deed restriction language will need to be carefully considered as well - what qualifies as "library use"? Who is responsible to review/enforce?

Thanks again, and please let me know if there is anything I can do to assist as this project proceeds.

Regards,
David

David Fetveit, Broker/Owner
PureWest Real Estate
406-249-1764

Jed Fisher

From: David Fetveit <david@purewestmt.com>
Sent: Monday, December 2, 2019 11:10 AM
To: Jed Fisher
Cc: Maggie Davis
Subject: Volunteer Park

Jed,
Thank you again for hosting the parks meeting in Lakeside as a forum for public comment. I will briefly reiterate my live comments below.

As the stated goal of the park is to provide local and regional access to the lake as Maggie described, I believe the highest and best use both aesthetically and functionally for all five acres is as a park.

However, I am certainly conflicted on the issue as the library is a significant community asset that I support; and ultimately however Bruce and Maggie desire to donate their land, I will continue to support completely as all possible outcomes are positive for Lakeside! If the library carve-out is the final outcome, just a few of the questions I think that need to be addressed are:

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Thanks again, and please let me know if there is anything I can do to assist as this project proceeds.

Regards,
David

David Fetveit, Broker/Owner
PureWest Real Estate
406-249-1764
www.davidfetveit.com

Jed Fisher

From: Bill and Mindy <bandm@montanasky.net>
Sent: Monday, December 2, 2019 8:08 AM
To: Jed Fisher
Subject: LIBRARY

Jed, a move by the library to the realty office could be an exciting opportunity for them. Great visual location and, probably, a good fit site wise. Do wish the county could have a library expert look at the overall fit and internal design prior to a commitment. Love the building; however, I've only viewed it from the outside. I can see it as a wonderful and dynamic building.

Thanks for helping our library,
Mindy Greer
Rollins

Sent from my iPad

Jed Fisher

From: Terri Pipinich <lakesidetete@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 1, 2019 9:51 PM
To: Jed Fisher
Subject: Library support

Hello Jed

My vote is that the library move to the former sotherby building. Economically it saves \$20,000 for a non profit community service, that benefits the entire community year round.

Thank you
Terri Pipinich, business owner

Jed Fisher

From: Jesica Swanson <jesicaswanson@centurytel.net>
Sent: Sunday, December 1, 2019 6:07 PM
To: Jed Fisher; Randy Brodehl
Subject: West Shore Community Library

Greetings gentleman,

I am writing this email to voice my support for the West Shore Community Library (WSCL) and the opportunity they have to move into the vacated realty building at the center of town and adjacent to Volunteer Park. This little library has been a vital asset to the community and to our family specifically. As the mother of two children (ages 9 & 11) who have learned to love reading, we visit the local library at least every other week. It is a joy to be greeted by the friendly volunteer staff and to have access to books, movies, and wi-fi. Both of my children have benefited from the children's story time during their preschool years. It gave them the opportunity to learn within a group setting for the first time and provided me an opportunity to meet other parents in the area. As the kids have grown older the summer reading program helped give them fun goals and kept them engaged in books throughout the summers. I also frequent the library and am always appreciative of the selection of books they continue to cultivate.

Every time we visit there are people using the free computers. I have seen people submitting job applications, studying for projects, as well as enjoying games and catching up on social media. In the summer we have noticed some of my son's classmates there. These young boys have found a safe place to frequent in a town with little to do to occupy their time while parents are working or running errands. The library has kept me informed on local volunteer opportunities and community events. The annual book sale and book sale room has kept our home library stocked with great reading materials for these long winter evenings. Their partnership with Imaginelf as a drop off and pickup location has saved us many trips to Kalispell! The West Shore Community Library is more than a library. It is a community resource that would greatly benefit from a more central location.

Thank you for your time and for considering this request. I believe it will be a great benefit to the community all through the year to have this wonderful organization in the proposed new location.

Sincerely,
Jesica Swanson
7844 HWY 93 South
Lakeside, MT 59922
(406) 270-1906

Jed Fisher

From: RUDY HEINLE <heinlemt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, December 1, 2019 11:37 AM
To: Jed Fisher
Subject: Lakeside park

Dear Jed,

I do not feel leaving the old real estate building where it currently sits is a great idea. The function and feel of the existing park with its vast amount of open space and lake access really captures what a lakeside park is all about. Leaving the building would disrupt the continuity of the park. I would like to see the library seek other viable solutions within Lakeside.

Thank you for asking for input.

All the best,

Rudy Heinle

Jed Fisher

From: Jim & Linda Heim <j.l.heim@centurytel.net>
Sent: Sunday, December 1, 2019 10:10 AM
To: Jed Fisher
Subject: West Shore Community Library

Jed,

I am writing in support of the County approving use by the West Shore Community Library of the former realty building next to Volunteer Park in Lakeside. The present location in Lakeside is not visible to the highway unless you are really looking for it as it is behind a frontage building. Local usage of the library is very good, but high visibility & signage would certainly increase awareness.

The volunteers who make our library viable do an excellent job and are very dedicated. The Lakeside/Somers communities have been very supportive with monetary donations as well.

I would ask for the County's support in approving this location for the library's use.

Sincerely,

Linda Heim
Lakeside

Jed Fisher

From: West Shore Community Library <westshorelibrary@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 2:33 PM
To: Jed Fisher; Randy Brodehl
Subject: Fwd: Support

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Hugh Rose** <hhrose@hotmail.com>
Date: Mon, Nov 25, 2019 at 8:11 PM
Subject: Support
To: westshorelibrary@gmail.com <westshorelibrary@gmail.com>
Cc: Gough Margaret <margieandjamie@gmail.com>

We are long time owners/taxpayers at Lakeside. We consistently use the Library's assets. We can not make the meeting but, without reservation, support the library move. Many thanks to Maggie and Bruce for their generosity. Hugh and Willie Rose

Sent from my iPhone

Jed Fisher

From: susan montana <susanrepa@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 10:36 AM
To: Jed.Fisher; Randy Brodehl
Subject: Fwd: move to Volunteer Park and utilize the recently vacated realty building

I am forwarding the message I sent to the West Shore Community Library in regards to the December 2 meeting in Lakeside.

I am in favor of the Lakeside Community using the realty building.

I suspect, as I said in message below that the county would be hesitant to change its policy.

I also suspect that many Lakeside area residents would not support any increase in their taxes, even for the benefit of a library.

I do hope that the county, with all of its resources, can give our community guidance in order to use this wonderful gift from Maggie Davis and Bruce Enis.

Susan Repa
Lakeside MT

----- Forwarded message -----

From: susan montana <susanrepa@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, Nov 30, 2019 at 10:21 AM
Subject: move to Volunteer Park and utilize the recently vacated realty building
To: <westshorelibrary@gmail.com>

YES, we will be attending to give support to the library's move to the vacated realty building. I have some thoughts in regards to the meeting:

- I suspect the county would be opposed to helping the Lakeside non-profit, non government library, when it refuses to help

actual county libraries. Do you have justifications to support the county going against its policies?

- Your e-mail states your 2020 operating costs budget is \$40,000. You may want to bring more detail of your costs to the meeting when you make your presentation. I assume your rent costs will be the majority of the budget? utilities? purchases of books/materials? ???
- Your e-mail states no government contributions. You may want to include your funding: fundraising (cost versus proceeds); grants; cash donations ...
- Would the county be more inclined to give the library the building if the county could impose a "Special Improvement District" for the Lakeside area? If so, I would assume an election would be needed?

These are only a few issues I can think of off the top of my head. I do hope your Executive Board is allowed to give the county and community a presentation.

Susan Repa
Lakeside MT

Jed Fisher

From: Nancy Manning <manning.nancy@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 11:22 AM
To: Jed Fisher
Subject: West Shore Library move

I am 100% in favor of the Library move to Volunteer Park. It would give more room and be much more visible. Thank you for considering my comment.

Nancy Manning

--

manning.nancy@gmail.com

P.O.Box 784 Lakeside, MT 59922

406-844-3369

Jed Fisher

From: Kathie Epeneter <kjepener@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 12:28 PM
To: Jed Fisher
Subject: West Shore Community Library

Dear Jed,

Many, many people could be served to a higher degree if the Library was moved to the new site at Volunteer Park.

It's a grand idea!

Kathie Epeneter,
Lakeside Resident

Jed Fisher

From: miken@mpcdevelopment.com
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 9:55 AM
To: Jed Fisher
Subject: West Shore Community Library

Hi Jed. My name is Mike Nuessle and I am an owner and live in the Waterside development next door. I do think the library is a great asset to Lakeside but I am hesitant to think that its potential location at the park is the right relocation. The function and feel of the existing park with its vast amount of open space (grass and outdoor amenities) and lake access really captures what a lake side park is all about. Keeping the continuity of the park with what is already existing today would appear to be very successful. I would suggest and fully support the library seek other viable solutions within Lakeside.

Sincerely, Mike and Lori Nuessle

Jed Fisher

From: Sandra Smith <qmanmom46@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 8:14 PM
To: Jed Fisher; Randy Brodehl
Subject: West Shore Community Library

Dear Jed & Bruce,

I am writing both of you to voice my support for moving the West Shore Community Library to available space at Volunteer Park. As a Somers resident, I am very appreciative of our community library and would love to see it given space to better serve the community. I primarily use it to borrow books, but whenever I'm there the computers are generally in use. I know the local children enjoy the story hours and the educational speakers that are brought in are always professional and informative.

Thank you for reading my comments,

Sandy Smith

1117 Klondyke Loop

Somers, Mt 59932

Jed Fisher

From: Cathy Meyer <wyrccmyr60@centurytel.net>
Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2019 9:01 AM
To: Jed Fisher
Subject: Lakeside Library

Our "little" local library is a central point not only to the residents of Lakeside but to all of the surrounding area. I am a book lover and so I am not only a visitor to the library but rely on its being there. Without the Lakeside library I would have to be driving 20 to 30 miles to get a book!!! I find the staff very helpful and the facility very pleasant. If there is a chance of moving to a larger facility I definitely support the idea. Sincerely, C & C Meyer

Jed Fisher

From: Ron & Kay Hopkins <rrhopkins@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, December 2, 2019 7:24 AM
To: Jed Fisher
Cc: Randy Brodehl
Subject: West Shore Community Library

I am writing in support of the proposed acquisition of property to house the West Shore Community Library.

I have served as a volunteer at the library for 20 years and have held the board positions of secretary and president. I can attest to the importance of this local library to the community and its residents.

As you well know, when newcomers tour our area, one of the things that they look for is a local source of information, technology (i.e. internet connections), and a sense of the civility of the community. As a volunteer I have encountered many visitors who have repeatedly indicated what a positive atmosphere and facility they have enjoyed at the West Shore Community Library. We make a very good impression on visitors and locals alike. They count on us as a linchpin in the community. They equate a well-organized, well-equipped, modern library as a statement as to the overall health of the community.

A move to the main byway of Lakeside is a positive move indeed. It would improve our visibility and provide a more central location for residents, school children, visitors, and possible property owners. We have long looked for a permanent home for our collection, but real estate prices and limited inventory has made that quest an impossibility.

As you may well know, we receive no funding from county taxes, state or federal grants because we have maintained our independent status. All of our income to meet the needs of basic expenses such as rent, utilities, and equipment has been through community support, fund raisers, and donations. Although the Flathead County Library discussed taking us under their umbrella, they were not able to fortify our needs financially, and we would need to restructure our volunteer status.

Acquisition of our own building is the long-overdue "next step" for our community library, helping us to continue to meet the needs of Lakeside and outlying west shore patrons. I encourage you to vote in support of our West Shore Community Library relocation.

Sincerely,

Kay Hopkins
PO Box 1066
Lakeside, MT
47.kayhop@gmail.com